

Keynotes

February 1998

Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory

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AOML to Participate in Personnel Demonstration Project

AOML will begin participating in the Department of Commerce's Personnel Demonstration Project in February 1998. The "Demo" project will be in effect for five years, although the Office of Personnel Management may extend it if further testing and evaluation are deemed necessary. The following dates outline the implementation schedule for the Personnel Demonstration Project:

- February 15-28, 1998: Freeze on all organizational changes.
- March 1-April 25, 1998: Continued freeze on organizational changes and freeze on personnel actions for all Demonstration participants (*i.e.*, promotions, details, reassignments, changes to lower grade, realignments, reductions-in-force, etc.). Exceptions to the freeze include non-position related actions (*i.e.*, name changes, federal employee government life insurance, accessions, and separations).
- March 29, 1998: Implementation of the Personnel Demonstration Project.
- April 25-May 9, 1998: All freezes lifted, business as usual.

Training sessions to introduce the Personnel Demonstration Project to employees and supervisors will be conducted at AOML in the near future. Additional information can be obtained by visiting web site <http://www.opm.gov/fedregis/1997/62r67434.txt>.

Questions about EEO or your rights in the work place? See the AOML EEO web page at <http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/EEO>.



Judy Gray Joins AOML Staff

Judy Gray, AOML's new Deputy Director, arrived at AOML on January 27, 1998. She joins us from ERL headquarters in Washington, D.C., where she served as program manager for the U.S. GLOBEC program.

Her career with NOAA began in 1978 when she joined the NOAA Corps and was assigned to the R/V *Oceanographer*. After 14 months of NOAA Corps service, she resigned and accepted a research position with the Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in Seattle, Washington. Her research focused on mesoscale variability in air-sea transfer and winds along mountainous coastlines. Judy remained at PMEL for ten years, during which time her program management skills and responsibilities increased. In 1983, she became PMEL's coordinator for fisheries oceanography, which resulted in her organizing and participating in research cruises in the Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea, as well as participation in 14 aircraft missions along the west coast of the United States and Alaska. When she earned a master's degree from the University of Washington in 1984, Professor Kristina Katsaros was one of her thesis committee members.

In 1990, she moved to Washington, D.C. to become a program specialist with ERL headquarters. She accepted the position with the goal of learning the following skills that she hoped one day to take back to the laboratory environment: people management, program management, the budget process, the difference between strategy and tactics, and how the NOAA system worked. Over the next several years Judy occupied a number of positions that enabled her to accomplish her goal. As a program specialist, she learned the federal budget system. In 1992, she worked for the Deputy Under Secretary of NOAA where she developed annual operating budgets for NOAA programs and "learned how all the pieces of NOAA fit together." From 1993-1995, Judy served as the Acting Executive Director and Acting Deputy Director of ERL, which provided ample opportunity to learn people management skills. She accepted a position with the Coastal Ocean Program in 1995 to develop a coastal forecast system, which enabled her to learn program management and to work with a strategic planner.

Judy is excited about her new position with AOML and looks forward to using both her energy and experience to help AOML meet the challenges of conducting federal environmental research.





R/V Ronald H. Brown Hosts Open House

As an early start for AOML's Silver Anniversary activities, CAPT David Peterson will host an open house aboard NOAA's newest research vessel, the *Ronald H. Brown*, on February 25, 1998 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Port of Miami. Family members of all ages are welcome to attend. A dessert reception will be provided. Contact Yolanda Pruneda (361-4318) a few days before the open house for the exact Port of Miami berth location of the *Ronald H. Brown*.

Silver Anniversary Notes

Here are a few important facts and dates to note as we prepare for AOML's Silver Anniversary celebration on March 2-4, 1998:

- Silver Anniversary name badges will be distributed in the next few weeks for AOML employees to wear during the Silver Anniversary celebration.
- Names and addresses of individuals to invite to the Silver Anniversary may be submitted to Yolanda Pruneda (361-4318) until February 13, 1998.
- RSVPs to attend the Silver Anniversary dinner at the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science must be received by Yolanda Pruneda no later than Friday, February 20, 1998.
- Posterboard presentations must be completed and displayed by Thursday, February 26, 1998. Posterboards can be obtained by contacting Yolanda Pruneda.



**PRESIDENTS'
DAY**

FEBRUARY 16, 1998

Silver Anniversary Celebration Approaches

Preparations for AOML's Silver Anniversary on March 2-4, 1998 are currently in progress and being completed by members of the Office of the Director and Silver Anniversary Committee. Commemorating 25 years of operating at its Virginia Key location, over 300 former AOML employees, work associates, and supporters of AOML have received invitation letters to attend our Silver Anniversary celebration events. AOML's research divisions are also participating in the preparations by assembling informative poster presentations which will be displayed throughout AOML during the Silver Anniversary celebration.

The schedule of Silver Anniversary activities is as follows:

Monday, March 2, 1998

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Arrival/welcome of guests to AOML. Coffee and pastries will be available in the lobby. Informal tours of AOML will be conducted. Scientific posters from AOML principal investigators will be on display throughout the building.

1:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Guest speakers will provide short accounts of the history of AOML, the building architecture, scientific programs and plans. Ceremonies will be conducted outdoors in a tent on the AOML grounds.



6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Cocktails and an informal reception at the University of Miami's Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science dining room.

8:00 p.m.

Dinner served. Invitations to attend the Silver Anniversary dinner will be distributed to AOML employees in early February. The price per person for dinner is \$35.00 which includes an open bar during the reception, appetizers, dinner, dessert, entertainment, and gratuity. George Berberian will serve as the evening's master of ceremonies. Guest speakers include Dr. Harris B. Stewart, former AOML director, and Dr. Otis Brown, dean of the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science. RSVPs should be received by Yolanda Pruneda (361-4318) no later than February 20, 1998.

Tuesday, March 3, 1998

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Overview of current research at AOML in the form of short presentations and comprehensive poster sessions. A round-table discussion of AOML's vision for the future will be held with representatives from the headquarters of the Office of Ocean and Atmospheric Research (OAR) and the Environmental Research Laboratories (ERL).

Wednesday, March 4, 1998

12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

AOML will host an all-you-can eat barbeque picnic for employees to relax and socialize after the "official" Silver Anniversary ceremonies. The picnic is free of charge; bring your appetite.

Visit AOML's Silver Anniversary web site at <http://www/aoml.noaa.gov/anniversary> for more information about AOML's Silver Anniversary celebration.

Travel

Sim D. Aberson will visit the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Princeton, New Jersey on February 12-13, 1998 to present an invited lecture entitled "Ensemble Forecast of Hurricane Tracks and Targeted Observations."

Silvia L. Garzoli and several PhOD members will attend the 1998 Ocean Sciences Meeting in San Diego, California on February 9-13, 1998. The meeting is sponsored by the American Geophysical Union and the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography.

Robert L. Molinari attended a Global Ocean Data Assimilation Experiment (GODAE) meeting in Melbourne, Australia on January 17-24, 1998. Through the NOAA GOOS Center located in PhOD, AOML will provide in-situ oceanographic data to GODAE modelers. Additional talks were directed at coordinating U.S. and Australian GOOS activities.

Christopher W. Landsea will attend the Arkwright Insurance Global Symposium on Natural Hazards in Boca Raton, Florida on February 16-17, 1998 and present a lecture about Atlantic hurricanes.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Tom and Laura Heeb on the birth of their second child, Thomas, Jr., born Sunday, February 1, 1998. Thomas, Jr., a health baby boy, weighed in at 7 pounds, 14 ounces.



AOML Volunteers Participate in Mimi Fest

AOML was well represented at Mimi Fest this past January 12-17, 1998 due to the efforts of a group of dedicated volunteers. Mimi Fest is an educational event for south Florida schoolchildren sponsored by the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science. AOML's volunteers took turns staffing a display booth throughout the week of Mimi Fest to speak with schoolchildren and provide them with oceanographic and meteorological information. The following individuals participated in Mimi Fest:

- Paul Dammann
- Yeun-Ho Daneshzadeh
- Peter Dodge
- Evan Forde
- Alejandra Lorenzo
- Linda Pikula
- Shari Yvon-Lewis

Thanks to their efforts, hundreds of south Florida schoolchildren were able to learn about AOML's important role in oceanographic and meteorological research.

Welcome Aboard

Todd Spindler joins the Physical Oceanography Division to assist with processing the Volunteer Observation Ships (VOS) XBT databases.

Cathy Steward joins AOML from the Southeast Fisheries Center Laboratory as a budget analyst. Cathy will work closely with Jean Smith in all administrative areas.

Yolanda Rivera has returned to AOML and will be working with the Silver Anniversary Committee and the Office of the Director.

UPCOMING INFORMAL RESEARCH REPORTS*

Date	Division	Speaker	Title of Report
February 3, 1998	OD	Dr. Kristina B. Katsaros	The surface cool film and the diurnal thermocline: Issues for air-sea flux determinations.
February 10, 1998	HRD	Mr. Robert A. Black	To be announced.
February 12, 1998	HRD	Dr. Mark D. Powell	Preliminary results on the boundary layer structure of Hurricane Guillermo.
February 17, 1998	OAD	Dr. John R. Proni	A progress report on the acoustic detection of rainfall.
February 24, 1998	HRD	Mr. Samuel H. Houston	Surface windfields in hurricanes (1935-1997).
February 26, 1998	HRD	Dr. Peter G. Black	Hurricane boundary layer structure: Something old and something new.

*All reports begin at 3:00 p.m. in the first-floor conference room.

ADP Hosts Seminar

Randy Davis will present a seminar entitled "Computer Services: An Introduction to ADP Personnel and Building Computer Resources" on Friday, February 13, 1998 at 3:00 p.m. in the first floor conference room. The seminar is designed to introduce the ADP group and familiarize everyone with computing resources and services. AOML has recently purchased a digital camera that is available for loan. Some of its features will be presented at the seminar.



Upcoming Workshop

Chuck Stevens, a systems engineer with Informix Software, will present a workshop entitled "Web Application Development using the Informix Dynamic Server Universal Data Option" on February 11, 1998 in the first floor conference room from 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. His presentation is designed to introduce programmers to object relational database management system concepts and Web application development. Topics to be covered include:

- Background on Informix dynamic server
- Universal data option
- DataBlades and spatial data processing
- Choices for HTML applications
- Choices for Java applications and applets

For more information, contact Reyna Sabina (sabina@aoml.noaa.gov) at 361-4324.

Aerobics Group Formed

Aerobics classes are being conducted at AOML by Ginger Garte, certified aerobics instructor, on the following days:

Mondays/Wednesdays: 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Tuesdays/Thursdays: 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Classes meet in the gym (located in the basement), with the first floor conference room used as an alternate location. For more information contact Ginger at 361-4430 (garte@aoml.noaa.gov). Bring along exercise mats, light weights, a jump rope, music, water, and lots of energy.



Pictured (left to right): Jim Churnside, Kristina Katsaros, Michael Hardesty, John Proni, and Albin Gasiewski.

On December 12, 1997, three members of the NOAA/Environmental Technology Laboratory, Michael Hardesty, Jim Churnside, and Albin Gasiewski, visited AOML to discuss collaborations in remote sensing. Members of the Hurricane Research Division, Ocean Acoustics Division, and oceanographers from the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science discussed lidar, radar, and radiometer measurements of the atmosphere and upper ocean.

AOML Celebrates Black History Month

February is designated Black History Month to acknowledge the achievements and contributions of African-American people. Noted African-American scholar and historian Carter G. Woodson is credited with having begun the tradition 72 years ago when he enacted Black History Week on February 12, 1926 (he chose the week of February 12 to include the birthday of Frederick Douglass). Woodson's goal was to instill pride in African-Americans by recognizing and honoring their accomplishments. Black History Week was expanded in the 1960s to become Black History Month, which is celebrated throughout North America.

AOML will celebrate Black History Month with a potluck luncheon on Thursday, February 12, 1998 in the lobby from 12:00-1:30 p.m. All participants are asked to please contribute a covered dish to share with others. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the main elevator.

Classified

1983 Mazda 626, blue, manual transmission, cruise control, 120K miles. Runs well but needs radio and A/C refill, asking \$850.00. Contact Andreas Roubicek at 361-4405 (roubicek@aoml.noaa.gov).

Keynotes is published monthly by the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory. Contributions are welcome and should be submitted prior to the last week of each month to ensure inclusion in the following month's edition. Please address all correspondence to Ms. Gail Derr, Office of the Director, 4301 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, FL 33149. Contributions may also be submitted by fax at (305) 361-4442 or by email (derr@aoml.noaa.gov). If you have comments, questions, or suggestions, feel free to send them along as well; we're always interested in hearing from you.

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Publishing Editor - Gail Derr

The deadline for submitting material for the March issue of *Keynotes* is Friday, February 20, 1998.